

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<div style="text-align: right;">Substitute for 1449A/PTO</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">(Use as many sheets as necessary)</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u></div>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	09/213,434
	Filing Date	December 17, 1998
	First Named Inventor	Herman Scherling
	Group Art Unit	2851
	Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	18938	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U. S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
<i>JS</i>		DE	2136708		Ainslie	01-27-1972		
<i>JS</i>		DE	2553395		Yamashita	08-12-1975		
<i>JS</i>		DE	2659729		Altman	10-20-1977		
<i>JS</i>		DE	3214544		Doi	11-11-1982		
<i>JS</i>		DE	3409791		Ohmura	09-20-1984		
<i>JS</i>		DE	3930448		Harase	03-22-1990		
<i>JS</i>		DE	4211824		Minami	10-29-1992		

Examiner Signature	<i>Just M.</i>	Date Considered	12/16/02
--------------------	----------------	-----------------	----------

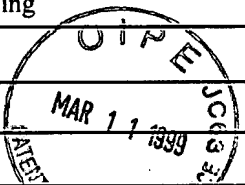
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U. S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.






Substitute for 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet <u>2</u> of <u>2</u>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	09/213,434
	Filing Date	December 17, 1998
	First Named Inventor	Herman Scherling
	Group Art Unit	2851
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket No.	18938




U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U. S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP	676663		Irie	10-11-1995		
		EP	701364		Schlechtingen	03-13-1996		
		FI	21613		Hamberg	10-15-1946		
		JP	A63-199312		Manabe	08-17-1988		
		JP	A1-176168		Fuse	07-12-1989		

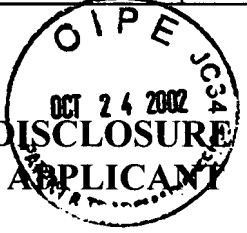
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	12/16/02
-----------------------	---	--------------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U. S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<div style="text-align: center;"> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u></div>	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	09/213,434
	Filing Date	December 17, 1998
	First Named Inventor	Herman SCHERLING
	Group Art Unit	2851
	Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket No.	18938	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U. S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴				
<i>Jan</i>			03089682 A	Masatoshi <i>JPX</i>	04-15-1991	<i>_____</i>	
<i>Jan</i>			07333595 A	Akio <i>JPX</i>	12-22-1995	<i>_____</i>	

Examiner Signature	<i>John M.</i>	Date Considered	12/16/02
-----------------------	----------------	--------------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U. S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.